NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

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FACTS AND OBSERVATIONS RELATING TO

AGRICULTURE & DOMESTIC ECONOMY.

BY THE EDITOR.

ON THE SITUATION AND CONSTRUCTION OF BARNS.

The observations and directions of foreign writers on husbandry, relating to this branch of rural economy, are very copious. Some valuable ideas for an American farmer may be extracted from the mass of matter, though the greater part is not adapted to our climate and circumstances. The following remarks were written by Mr. Samuel Gibson, an intelligent Pennsylvania farmer, "who to the experience of an excellent practical agriculturist, adds that of an active and ingenious mechanic, and who has erected a spacious barn, which is esteemed, by competent judges, a model of neatness and convenience."* His opinion in general, on the construction of such a building of stone, sufficient to accommodate a well cultivated farm of 120 acres, 40 of which may be supposed to be wood land, is as follows:

"The situation should be as near the middle of the farm as can conveniently be, and on ground sloping towards the south, so as to admit of water being brought through wooden pipes, from the ground above, and raised in the yard if practicable, or at least that it may pass thro' the yard. The scite should not be nearer than 60, nor farther than 100 yards from the dwelling-house, as in case of fire breaking out in either, the other might be safe; it also conduces more to cleanliness, and where any of the family may happen to be sick they will not be disturbed by the noise of the barn, stables, &c. The dimensions might be 70 feet by 36; the hill dug into upon a level, and the earth removed from the barn yard. The building to be of stone; the foundation sunk two feet below the level; the walls two feet and an half thick at bottom, and to continue so to the height of the stable doors; the ground so much sloped as to be five feet high when the hill is cut down, and a wall raised close to this, at the distance of seven feet from the barn; this intermediate space would admit a free circulation of air round the barn and stables below; over this a gangway is to be raised, leading into the barn floor; an excavation may also be made in the hill under this, to which a door through the aforesaid wall may conveniently lead, which will form a very suitable place for stowing away potatoes and other vegetables. The stables to be seven feet in the clear; and the wall two feet thick, set right on the middle of the wall below; from that to the square of the barn the thickness may be reduced three inches on each side, and carried up 20 feet above the stables. Above this the gable ends may be raised 15 feet, which will give sufficient slope to the roof, which ought to be covered with the best cedar shingles or slate. The ground area below may be divided into four spaces for cattle, horses, &c.; none of which divisions ought to be less than 12 feet wide, with an entry between the two rows of creatures, whose heads should be towards the entry. The foundations of the partitions, a stone wall 18 inches thick, rising 10 or 12 inches at least above the floor, on which a frame of wood work should rise to the joists. The stable floors paved with pebble stones, descending from the troughs, with a like descent towards the door. The advantages of such a floor are, that it will not harbor rats and other vermin, and is durable; the hardness ought to be no objection, as plenty of bedding should be furnished for the purpose of increasing the quantity of dung. Raise the barn floor seven feet above the bottom of the hay-mow, which will leave 12 feet for the height of the barn floor, which ought also to be its breadth. The advantages of raising it thus are many; the labor of pitching your hay is very much reduced; you acquire a good room between that and the stables for stowing grain, &c. The labor of raising the entrance to the barn floor is trifling in comparison of what the labor of pitching it would otherwise occasion; and if the ground rises with a considerable angle, backwards, the difficulty of raising the gangway will be still less. The barn floor should be laid with three inch oak plank, well seasoned; each plank ploughed with a half inch iron, within an inch of the lower edge, and a strip put in each point, which will keep the whole firm and solid, and effectually prevent dust, &c. from getting through; it might also be an advantage to have glass windows in the granary, and back of the barn floor, the sides of which may be defended by the boards which form the sides of the granaries, next the hay mows, and ought to rise four feet above the thrashing floor. Fixed ladders on each side of the barn floor are also convenient to get at the hay above. In each hay mow a square hole of four feet must be run up, from the entry below to the top of the mow, and framed to prevent the hay from stopping it up. These may serve a two fold purpose, that of conveying hay down to feed with, and as ventilators. It may also be observed that the stable and entry doors ought all to be arched, and the hinges and fastenings of all the doors of iron built into the wall in the simple form of hooks and eyes, the hook making part of the hinge; the stable floor should also be as high as the sill of the door, and ascending back.

"Round stone pillars, two and an half feet in diameter, may be raised at equal distances from each other in front of the stables, and eight feet apart; these may be made as high as the stable doors, upon which a frame might be erected to such a height as to be conveniently covered by the general roof; which would form an excellent corn house, and would also shade the stable doors. Steps should be placed under this frame leading into it, and also into the granary under the barn floor. This frame or corn house, should be so high from the ground as to admit a cart or waggon below it; and should also have an opening in the floor to pour the corn down. The main entry to the corn house to be through the thrashing floor.

"A barn built upon these principles would produce a saving of at least one hand daily, in the single article of pitching hay, as one person may haul and tumble into the barn as much hay as three could stow away in the usual way, which is of considerable consequence in harvest time, when work is pressing. One man will pitch the hay from the waggon on the barn floor, up to the whole square of the barn, as fast as two or three can stow it away; whereas, in the common way of building barns it would take two to pitch it up. Indeed it might be questioned whether it would not be an advantage to raise the floor still higher, on this account, as pitching hay is the hardest part of stowing it away; this would also increase the size of the granaries. To this some object, on account of its rising above the square of the barn, but this is nothing when put in competition with the advantages to be derived from the facility of pitching, as the roof may readily be formed so as to admit of it.

"Objections have been made against stone barns, as not being sufficiently airy, and being damp, so as to injure the grain; inconveniences more imaginary than otherwise, and which the writer of these observations has never experienced; but which, if they did exist, might soon be remedied by plaistering the outside of the north-east end of the building, and projecting a penthouse from the square, which if attended to, and a sufficient number of windows left, all of which that are under the eves, and otherwise not exposed, having Venitian blinds, with a large ventilator on the top of the roof, on which may be fixed a lightning-rod; such precautions will most assuredly prove the superiority of such a stone barn to all others."

It is not probable that more than one in a million of our New England farmers, would and could build a barn altogether according to the plan mentioned above. But some hints might, perhaps, be gathered from it, which would prove useful in erecting a building which is of so great importance to a farmer. We believe it may be well, in general, so to construct a barn that carts or waggons may be drawn in on the second floor, which may be situated at any commodious distance above the ground floor, or on a level with what New England farmers call the *scaffolds*. The second floor may contain the sheaves of grain, and a part of the hay. If no side hill exists in the place where it is wished to build the barn, (according to Mr. Gibson's plan) a bridge or causeway may be made, commencing on the ground at a proper distance from the barn, and terminating on the second floor, by which loads may be conveyed. It will be very convenient if the whole is so contrived that teams may be driven in at one door and out at another opposite, instead of having to submit to the awkward process of *backing out* the unloaded cart or waggon. Cellars to barns, under planks which are placed on sills or sleepers and form the floors of the stables or cattle stalls, are becoming fashionable in New England, and are no doubt very convenient and economical. Into such cellars the dung of the stables can be shovelled with very little labor; and if this can be so constructed as not to freeze, and have room for holding mud loam and other materials for making compost to be deposited in

* American edition of Rees' Cyclopedia, Art. BARN.

them, in autumn;—those materials may be mixed with the dung in the winter, and the process of making compost, carried on in the coldest weather. The liquid manure of stalled cattle &c. by that mode of management might be imbibed by earth, &c. in the compost; and the products of fermentation secured and turned to account. By this or similar modes of proceeding a farmer may more than double the quantity and greatly enhance the quality of his barn manure.

FOR THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

CUCUMBERS.

I have many times dug a hole in the earth about two feet deep and two in circumference, nearly filled it with straw or old hay, and then covered it over with small stones. Around this hole, and about three inches from the edge, planted cucumbers; and as they grew and began to vine, stuck in bushes, such as are used in sticking peas, all around the cucumbers, on the out side, about nine inches from the roots. These bushes are stuck in slanting so that the top end would rise about a foot from the earth. As the vines advance, put another row around in the same way, beginning about half way between the top ends of the first and the place in which the but ends were put into the ground; and then a third row, and so on as circumstances require. From one such hill I have had gathered at one time near two pails full of cucumbers; and the vines will continue to bear much longer than those planted in the usual way and suffered to run directly upon the ground. The advantages of the hole, straw and stones, are these. The degree of wet is almost entirely under the control of the gardener; and the vines saved from the inconvenience often experienced from turning water upon them. If it is a dry season, and the soil dry, a pail full or more of water may be turned into the hole at once. P.

FOR THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

A SURE WAY TO DESTROY CATERPILLARS.

Many ways have been devised to destroy caterpillars on trees, such as the application of spirits of turpentine, live ashes, burning brimstone, &c. I have tried all these remedies, but never had much success; they effect a partial, but not a total destruction of them. They may be driven from their nests, torn to pieces, and some of them may be killed; but those that are not destroyed are sure to collect on another limb and renew their attack upon the defenceless foliage. The most effectual way that ever I have tried, is to blow them "sky high," with a gun or pistol—this will destroy them. The way that I work it is to put the powder into the gun without any wad, and hold the muzzle within about a foot of the nest in such a position as to range the whole of it, and then discharge it;—this will clear the limb of nest, worms and eggs. This method is not so expensive as some may imagine. A pound of powder which may be bought for about two shillings, will destroy 75 or a 100 nests, and the gun or pistol would be more useful in this business, than when in the hands of the fowler, or in those of a Southern duellist. S.

It is said the most violent hæmorrhages may be stopped by the volatile flour of alkali.

From the American Farmer.

JOHN S. SKINNER, ESQ.

Dear Sir,

So much has been written and said, about "Improved Short Horns," that there is little to be given by me in their praise, but the results of my immediate observation. I had ample opportunities abroad, I have most sedulously availed myself of all the means within my reach at home, to obtain accurate information on the comparative merits of the various breeds of neat cattle, of which we are possessed. I control more than a thousand acres of alluvious meadow, as well as many farms, and large bodies of wild lands, in Pennsylvania, New York, and Maine. I am thus led to mingle with farmers both in this and in other states, to examine their cattle, and ascertain their properties, as well as the products of the soil; whilst my own farm enables me to prosecute any system of experiments, which I may be led to attempt.—I have had cattle bred in Kentucky, Maryland, Virginia, Maine, Massachusetts, Vermont, New-York, and Pennsylvania. I have traced every importation, of which I had heard. I can distinguish Mr. O'Donnell's, Patterson's, Goughs's, and Parkinson's importations for Maryland—the Holstein, *Alderney*, Irish, Dutch, Flanders, Brittany, Pole and short Horn breeds brought into Pennsylvania by Mr. Sims, Cunningham, Ross, Waln, Hamilton, Kettland, Guest, and Haines: the families of various degrees of affinity, to the pure race of "Short Horns," carried to New York by Col. Deveaux, and Mr. Heaton—the Leicestershire, Lancashire, and Hereford cattle, taken to Connecticut, Massachusetts and Maine, by Mr. Wadsworth, Stewart and Vaughan. Of most of these importations I have had individuals, and of all, have carefully examined some of the progeny, either here, or at a distance.

I have possessed an hundred and fifty cows, calves, bullocks, and bulls within three years. I am a member of the society of learned farmers, I have attended cattle shows without number, I have read "Albion," "the Memoirs," and I reside near farms of "large dairies devoted:" thus without boasting of my brilliant accomplishments, or elaborate acquirements, in all that relates to the *tail of a sheep*, the buttock of a bull, or the bag of a cow, I may venture to state what I and my cattle have done.

For some animals of the breeds, which I designate, I had given great prices; yet the best of them all, I sold for but sixty dollars a head, about the time I gave nearly five hundred dollars for two imported "*Improved Short Horn*" *cows*—and from Mr. Williams of Massachusetts procured eighteen or twenty yearlings, and calves by his extraordinary Bull Denton. I have since obtained three imported heifers; for one of them by North Star from a cow by Comet, I paid in England five hundred dollars. Among my stock a Chinese and Devon heifer, a yearling and cow from an imported Devon, by an English bull, also heifers and cows bred upon our meadows and mountains have been placed, to decide the questions, which have caused among breeders so much dispute. All my experience has shown, that the extent of excellence in the animal, whether *in points, properties, shape, disposition, early maturity, or tendency to secrete fat, or afford* rich milk is determined, by the degree of affinity to the *pure race of Improved* Short Horns. That my Durham cows are deep milkers, that they are *hardy** have elastic pliant hides with thick soft coats, that when dry, they are easily made fat, that whilst yielding milk, they become thin, has been proved to my entire conviction. Might not "Albion" be asked whether he did not forget, that although it is difficult to "blow hot and cold at the same time," that it is possible to blow hot in June, and cold in January. The tendency towards fat, proceeds, I should presume, from the power of the animal's stomach, and intestines to separate the nutritious, from the excrementitious parts of its aliment. Nature wisely destines certain portions of nutritious matter at proper times, for the secretion of milk—that milk is an unctuous, and very nutritious fluid, cannot be questioned—much therefore of nutrition is withdrawn by the milk from the formation of fat—but does it follow, that such portions as have made butter, *or produced fat in the calf*, when no longer directed towards the secretion of milk, must necessarily lose all their properties, and pass off in urine or in dung? Do we not invariably find, that all cows when dry become more readily fat than when they give milk? Is it not to be inferred that the matter which would have passed off in milk, *may* be made to produce fat?—Does not our experience show in all families of wild cattle, where the perverseness of man has not interfered with the dispositions of nature, that when kept quiet, and well fed, they exhibit great tendency towards secretions of fat. In the cattle even of Asia and China, in the Kyloes of Scotland, in the wild breeds of Louisiana, and in the little mountain cows of America, such disposition is generally shown.

The mistaken ingenuity of the breeders of Holland, whence all the deepest milkers, whether Holderness, "Old Short Horns," Holstein, or whatever they may be termed in America, are in some measure derived, carried them into an absurd "cross," affording excessive secretions of bad milk; thus not only prematurely exhausting the animal by which they are given, but at all times requiring great quantities of food for her support. That disease, peculiar tendency *towards fatness or leanness*, or copious supplies of thin, or lesser quantities of rich milk, or even the determination of a particular color, towards any definite part of the body, as white at the end of a Devon's tail, may be established by perseverance, and art, every man conversant with the subject, will readily believe. Because a Dutchman chooses to wear out his cow, or have a race of animals, which will not readily become fat, even when dry; and the cupidity of the venders of milk in the neighborhood of large towns in England, or America, has led them to propagate this unthrifty breed of cattle, is it to be inferred, that the efforts of Collings, and his coadjutors, could not obtain by crossing a family, which are fitted *at different times for the production of milk, and secretion of fat.*

Yours, &c. CURWEN.

Philadelphia County, April 18th, 1823.

* The hardiness of this breed of cattle, was forcibly evinced, on the estate of a scientific and eloquent agriculturist, who in his contempt of the old fashioned mode of delving, and ploughing the earth, unluckily left his barns without fodder, and his fields bare of grass, to the great mortification of himself in the last spring, when he emerged from his closet, and discovered that his schemes had all failed, and his cattle had starved, except those of pure "Improved Short Horn" blood.

Murray's System of Chemistry, says "the blood is a compound of this kind," &c. "and if we suppose a fluid thus passing through tubes of different diameters, and undergoing successive decompositions, we may easily conceive that very different products may be formed from the same original compound. This affords a simple view of the nature of secretion. No complicated apparatus is requisite for the performance of the change, all that is necessary being the propulsion of the blood through minute vessels, capable of contraction. It has accordingly frequently been observed, that new products are formed without the intervention of glands; such is the formation of the fat or of muscular fibre. It is easy to conceive that the formation of these may take place in the extreme vessels, where these products are deposited; and in like manner, in the mere course of the circulation, may be formed the gluten, albumen, and other principles of the blood itself.—From secretion a variety of products are formed, as the bile, milk, fat, the bony matter, the matter of membranes, and a variety of others.—These complete the formation of animal matter, and comprehend its several varieties. Such are the different steps of the process of animalization. The food is digested in the stomach, mixed with animal matter in the intestinal canal, and converted into chyle: this mingles with the blood, and loses a portion of carbon in the lungs: in the extreme vessels it is converted into the general principles of animal matter; and in the glands, is converted into various secreted products."

White, vol. 4, chapter 1, of the formation of the digestive organs of the cow, page 13. "The stomach then may be considered both as a muscular and as a vital organ. If we view it in another light we shall consider it as one continued bibulous surface, sucking up the chyle as it is formed, and conveying it by means of the milk-vessels to the four receptacles which are named the quarters of the udder. There is another order of absorbent vessels in the stomach, and in the small intestines also, especially in the upper part, named lacteals, which ramify through the mesentery, and terminate in the thoracic duct, having previously passed through what are named the mesenteric glands; that is for the most part, for some are seen going over their surface. These lacteals are subsidiary, and occasional in their office, serving to convey chyle when the mesenteric glands are inflamed and obstructed. Chyle, as we find it in the lacteals, is exactly like milk in every respect, and is, in fact, the same thing. The fluid of the thoracic duct is different; it is semi-transparent, has always a little oil floating on it, and is now and then found mixed with a little blood, which probably falls into it after death, from the great vein in which it terminates. This depends on the valve of that part giving way, in consequence of death. Chyle and milk are then precisely the same thing; and in the cow there are three thoracic ducts, two going to the udder and conveying milk, and one to a great vein near the heart, conveying that fluid from which the blood is formed. When the animal has young, the lactiferous vessels, for so the minute branches of the two former thoracic ducts should be named, have a predominant aptitude to absorb the chyle, and a sufficient quantity only is taken up by the chyliferous vessels going to the third thoracic duct to supply the heart."

☞ Note.—The Editor takes the liberty of adding the following extract from a letter from Col. Edward Lloyd. Speaking of the Improved Short Horns, Champion, Shepherdess and White Rose—sent in by Mr. Charles Champion of Blythe, Nottinghamshire, England, Col. Lloyd observes "I found Champion and the heifers in fine order on my return; they were, and still are too fat. I assure you that Shepherdess reduces *but slowly*, although I feed her alone on *corn tops*—and Champion is still too fat, although I have reduced his feed to a half gallon of meal per day. Their *fattening qualities* far exceed my expectation, and are almost incredible."

Note by the editor of the New England Farmer.—The foregoing is the production of a very distinguished agriculturist, whose science and practical information place him among the first of the foremost of American agriculturists. It contains much valuable information, not only as respects facts, but theory, relative to improving and improved animals of that species which is the most valuable of any which have ever submitted to the dominion and ministered to the necessities of man. It may not be amiss to observe, that Col. Jaques, of Charlestown, Mass. possesses the "Improved short horns," which are the object of Mr. "Curwen's" merited encomiums, in all their purity. The bull Cœlebs is a descendant from the famous bull Comet, the same remove with the "extraordinary bull Denton." Denton and Cœlebs are both grand-children to that celebrated sire of fine cattle. The merits of the latter are probably as great, and (at least in this vicinity,) are as highly appreciated as those of the former. Cœlebs, we are told, has, every season, 50 cows, at 10 dollars each, a fact which proves our agriculturists are not insensible to the merits of that valuable animal.

The following is extracted from an able Essay, entitled, "*Remarks on the Agriculture of Massachusetts*," published in the Massachusetts Agricultural Repository, vol. v, p. 317.

George Adams, in his Treatise entitled "The New System of Husbandry," developes his mode of managing an acre, which, according to his statements and calculations, is equal, in result, to raising food enough in one season, on one acre, to keep one cow 1089 days, which is three years, wanting only six days!! We shall not vouch for the actual experiment, to the extent stated. His mode, however, is unquestionably excellent, and the product must be great, even should it consideraly fall short of the amount he asserts.

His mode is this:—

His cattle are kept in houses in winter and summer, so contrived as to save both dung and urine. He plants in the fall, or as early as possible in the spring, drumhead cabbages, in rows, three feet wide in the rows, two feet between the plants; that is, three plants in every square yard. Thus an acre will contain 14520 plants. If the land be poor the plants ought to be nearer. On good land in the English climate, they ought to weigh fifteen pounds each, upon an average, by the first of June. This is equal to 217,000 pounds, or one hundred and eight tons to the acre. He allows each beast thirteen cabbages and 1-4th or 200 lbs., for every day and night. The product of this acre, then, will keep twenty head of cattle fifty four days; or one head, one thousand and eighty-nine days—nearly three years.

Adams' system is connected with soiling cattle, or keeping them in houses during the whole summer, and is capable of still farther extension. For he states his practice to be carefully to cut off the cabbages by the head, leaving their stalks cut across at the top, to grow again.

As soon as a few rows are cleared off, he spreads the dung and urine carefully over the ground. The cabbage stalk, being left, will soon sprout again. Then with a small hoe he cuts the ground over, so as to cover the manure, and sows turnips among the cabbage stalks. He continues to do this until the whole ground is gone over. He asserts that, in that climate, by the first of November he has as great a product, as at first.

In this way, land is improved by bearing crops, and one acre of land made to keep twenty horned cattle 108 days, or three and a half months!!

Without vouching for the result of this experiment, in the extent here specified, it is simple and practicable enough to enable any one to satisfy himself of the greatness of its product, and must have a strong tendency to awaken the attention of practical farmers to the subject.

From the Old Colony Memorial.

THRESHING MACHINE.

A writer in the Memorial of Feb. 22, wishes to know whether there has not been a machine invented for threshing English grain, which will bear the test of experience. The following is offered in reply.

A machine has been invented by Timothy Howe, Esq. of Turner, (Me.) which he has denominated *Howe's Improved Threshing Machine*, for which he has obtained letters patent, dated December 3, 1822.

This machine is said to unite *durability* with *cheapness and simplicity*, and to answer the purpose of threshing admirably well. It operates with convenience in a common barn floor, and threshes as fast as one hand can fairly untie the bundles and put them into the machine.

The right for the counties of Plymouth and Bristol in this state, and for the state of Rhode-Island, has been purchased by an enterprising young man in Middleborough, who is erecting a machine for the inspection of those who may wish to examine it, and to exhibit its usefulness at the approaching harvest. Though patented, this machine is within the reach of every practical farmer, as the cost of making, together with the right for using one machine, will not exceed $25, and it may be so constructed that it can be removed from one place to another, so as to serve for several neighboring farms. If we may judge from the rapid sale of the right for making, vending, and using these machines in various parts of the United States, we believe it must be a very valuable invention; and it is confidently trusted that the hopes of agriculturists will not be disappointed by this machine's being "withdrawn into obscurity and oblivion."

Middleborough, May 13, 1823. C.

To prevent Fishing lines from rotting.

Never wind your lines on your reel wet; at least, when you get home, wrap them round the back of a chair, and let them be thoroughly dried, otherwise they will soon rot, and cannot be depended on; with this care they will last a considerable time.

From the Poultney, (Vermont) Gazette.

Messrs. Smith & Shute—

As I recently caused to be published in your paper, some remarks on the subject of Dairying, perhaps it will not be inexpedient to offer a few observations in support of the theory therein contained. Considerable diversity of opinion seems to exist concerning the manufacture of butter; and the query seems to rest—whether it is not, the most effectual means of giving it a preservative quality, when made, by cleansing it from the milk, with water. A few reasons may be deduced, which, to me, together with considerable personal observation, appear conclusive, in favor of cleansing it with pure spring water.

In the first place, it is a fact, which it needs no argument to establish, that so long as there is any part of the acidity of the milk retained in the butter, it cannot be preserved; and I conceive it to be beyond a possibility, to cleanse it from this acidity, except through the aid of water. This may be proved by simple experiment:—When the butter is churned, let it be thoroughly worked over, so that the milk is apparently entirely out—then thrown into clear water, and it will be discovered that the water will become white and sour with the milk.—This, then, simply shows, that the sourness cannot be got out by working only.

It is thought, by some, that by washing, the water takes away the goodness of the butter.—But if any of the goodness can be washed away, why is it not done with the brine, which is generally added to preserve it? Every one must know, there is no affinity between oil and water; and such is the nature of butter. By letting the water, in which the butter is washed, stand for a time after being used, it will be easy to discover what part or quality of the butter is taken out; as it will gather upon the top—which will convince any one, that there is nothing taken from it which should not be.

It is the general practice of those who put down butter to keep, to put it down in brine, which I consider the best method of preserving it; and unless it is cleansed from the milk, this brine becomes a butter-milk-brine, and will not preserve it from rancidity—so it is when the butter is not put into brine, the salt mixing with the particles of sour milk left in the butter;—whereas, on the contrary, if the butter is washed in pure water till it runs clear from it, the little particles of water which are retained in the butter, when salted, assist to dissolve the salt, and become, of themselves, pure particles of brine, interspersed throughout, which will effectually preserve it. Now, if brine be a preservative, which is universally acknowledged, of what consequence is it, in what manner it comes into the butter, provided it is pure and clear when it gets there;—whether it be added after the butter is made, salted, and carried to the merchant, or at the time it is made? It seems very rational, that the sooner the butter is reft of the sour milk, and a pure brine takes its place, the better it is.

In hot weather, butter is frequently brought to market full of little hard specks of coagulated milk. This is thought by some, impossible to prevent;—but it may, in a measure be remedied, by often stirring the cream, after skimming; and what remains may be entirely got out by washing. The cream, however, should never stand till this coagulation so forms. Butter being of a concrete substance, the union of its constituent parts is formed with difficulty, through the imposing barriers, conjunct with its original state; and these are scarce ever so entirely removed, but that something of an acid nature remains in it. Let the butter be sweet when churned, and every acid substance removed from it by washing, and it will not, with facility, inhale from the atmosphere, that substance which, being cherished, as it lights upon the surface, by particles of acidity, creates that fœtid, offensive flavor, usually called *frow*.

Rancid butter is said to be one of the most unwholesome and indigestible of foods;—and if there can be any improvement upon the manner of preserving it, it will not only prove beneficial to the general health, as an article of consumption—but will enhance its value, as a market commodity.

A. B.

From the Dutchess Observer.

Mr. Barnum—The season will soon arrive when almost every farmer can save his own Timothy Seed, and that at an expense of not more than seventy five cents per bushel, while the market price is generally from 4 to 5 dollars.—I take an interest in the improvements of agriculture and the happiness of my fellow citizens: and herewith furnish you with the following mode of saving this kind of grass seed, which I think is at once cheaper, easier and better, than any other mode with which I am acquainted.

Process.—When about half of the heads or tops of the grass had changed their appearance, or become whitish, I sent two men with mowing scythes, and one with a common grain cradle (the fingers of which were pretty close together, to gather up the heads of the grass and to prevent them from dropping through) into the field; and they began to work in the following manner. One of the men, with his scythe, mowed a *swath* to make room for the tops of the grass to be laid from the *cradle*. The man with the cradle followed, cutting the tops of the standing grass as high as could conveniently be done and save the heads—laying the same in or near the middle of the mown swath, (in the same manner that grain is laid from the cradle) for the purpose of leaving room for the mown grass or stubble, of the mower, who immediately followed the cradle. In this manner, the tops were kept separate from the mown *stubble*. It was found necessary for the man using the cradle, to stand near the *edge* of the standing grass, that he might with more facility lay his tops out of the way of the stubble, to be cut after him it was also found that one man with a cradle, would cut the tops about as fast as two others could mow the stubble after him. And in this manner they proceeded till they had cut as much as was intended.

Then with rakes, they gathered up three or four of the seed or cradle swaths, and laid them sufficiently spread, by the side of another cradle swath; which made a space for spreading the hay or stubble, which at a proper time, was raked and carried off.

The seed tops remained, as above described four or five days, (which when the weather is dry will generally be long enough) and then it was ready for threshing. The tops may be threshed with horses or flails—which ought to be done on a hot, dry day, and as soon as the heads are sufficiently dry. I threshed mine last season on the fourth day after being cut, with horses—within half a day—from grass which grew on about 1 1-4 acre of ground, and it did not stand very thick.

MARTIN E. WINCHELL.

North East, May 12, 1823.

From the Albany Plough Boy.

From the first settlement of America, lands have always been considered so plenty and so cheap by our predecessors, that little attention has heretofore been had to economise the soil. Recently, from a variety of concurring circumstances, especially from the stimulating measures of numerous agricultural societies, it is found much to the interest and happiness of individuals to renovate *worn out lands*, as they have been called, in preference to submitting to the privations and miseries of seeking new lands in distant regions. Among numerous successful experiments to renovate worn out lands, the following well authenticated fact is worthy the notice of every farmer. David Lawton, a Quaker farmer, from Rhode Island, settled some years ago in the town of Washington, county of Dutchess, 13 miles east of Poughkeepsie. His neighbor Amos Herrick, pressed him for some time to purchase 20 acres of land adjoining his farm, which had been lying in common, as worn out abandoned land, for seven years. At length Lawton purchased the 20 acres at $5 an acre, payable in five years without interest, with the privilege to abandon at the termination of that period. Lawton's purchase was the sport of the neighborhood; it was pronounced worth nothing, as it was subject to a small tax, and that even mullen would not grow on it. The ensuing spring Lawton fenced in the 20 acres with substantial rails, and proceeded as follows:

First year, ploughed deep, sowed oats, and put on 8 quarts of clover seed; and a bushel of plaster, immediately after sowing, to the acre; and soon after the field became green, a second bushel of plaster to the acre; left the crop to rot on the ground, and permitted no creature to run on the land.

Second year, put on another bushel of plaster to the acre in the spring; there was a good crop of clover, which was again left to rot on the ground, and no creature permitted to feed on it.

Third year, nothing was done in the spring, but a vigorous growth of clover covered the whole twenty acres, which was ploughed in with 4 oxen to a good depth; the whole field smoked while the clover was in a state of decomposition. As soon as it was sufficiently rotted, the field was cross-ploughed, and when mellowed it was thoroughly ploughed for a crop of wheat, which was neatly got in, and in a sufficient quantity in the month of September.

In the 4th year, reaped as fine a crop of wheat as Dutchess county had ever produced, which sold for two dollars a bushel. Lawton paid the purchase money before it was due, refunded all his expenses, labor included, and had $20 in pocket. Two years after he refused $50 an acre for the same land, and fairly turned the tables upon his sneering neighbors. The soil was a dark loam intermixed with coarse gravel.

CA-IRA.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

SATURDAY, JUNE 14, 1823.

The Farmer's and Gardener's Remembrancer.

JUNE.

Destroy Weeds.—The destruction of weeds is one of the most important branches of the art of husbandry. If this be neglected, or imperfectly performed, from one third to one half the crop is usually lost. If weeds are allowed to grow, we loose a part of the advantage of manuring our land. The mixture of weeds in the soil prevents the crop from receiving the beneficial influence of the air. Weeds among grain greatly increase the trouble and risque of harvest; for a crop, which is free from weeds, will need much less drying than one which is mixed with them. Indeed, it would require pages to make a complete recapitulation of the evils which arise from these "*green snakes*," as they are sometimes called by farmers, which embrace agriculture with folds almost as deadly as those with which the Anaconda or Boa Constrictor incloses its prey.

Although wheat, and other broad cast crops, we believe, are rarely, if ever, weeded in this country, there can be little doubt but that in many instances it would be good economy to pull out the weeds by hand in the same way that they are extracted from growing crops of garden vegetables. Sir John Sinclair says, "various experiments have been tried to ascertain the *positive advantage* derived from carefully weeding one part of a field, and leaving another part undone; among these, the following, made with peculiar accuracy, may be safely relied on.

"1. *Wheat.*—Seven acres of light gravelly land were fallowed, and sown broad cast; one acre was measured off, and not a weed was pulled out of it; the other six were carefully weeded. The unweeded acre produced 18 bushels; the six weeded acres 135 bushels, or 22½ per acre, which is 4½ bushels, or 1-4th more produce in favor of weeding.

"2. *Barley.*—A six acre field was sown with barley in fine tilth, and well manured. The weeding, owing to a great abundance of charlock, cost 12 shillings per acre. The produce of an unweeded acre was only 13 bushels; of the weeded, 28. Difference in favor of weeding, 15 bushels per acre, besides the land being so much cleaner for succeeding crops.

"3. *Oats.*—Six acres sown with oats; one acre ploughed but once and unmanured; produce, 17 bushels. Another six acres ploughed three times, manured and *weeded*, produce 37 bushels. This experiment shows that oats require good management, and will pay for it as well as other crops. Ten bushels of the increased produce may be fairly attributed to the weeding; and the other ten to the manure."

We have not known wheat or other broad cast crops weeded in the United States; but perhaps the recital of the above experiments may, in some cases, induce individuals to make trials of this mode of freeing their fields from vegetable robbers. At least all the rye, cockle, darnel, &c. should be pulled up, in wheat fields, before they produce their seeds. "In some countries, particularly in Scotland, the people make as much account of weeding their fields of grain as their gardens. This should by all means be performed before the time when the plants begin to send out their ears; because, after this, they will be more in danger of being hurt by people's passing among them. Especially the wheat or other grain ought not to be touched while it is in blossom."*

Care should be taken not to carry the seeds of weeds into the fields which are intended for white crops. When fresh dung is made use of, it should be applied to land on which Indian corn, potatoes, or some other hoed crops are raised. You should not suffer weeds, either in gardens, or on any part of the farm, to go to seed. If you have not time to dig them up, you can at least mow them down with a scythe, and you will thus, by preventing the production of the vegetable progeny, realize the truth of the wise saying, that "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of remedy." Our readers have already been cautioned against sowing the seeds of weeds with any kind of grain.† To prevent this, a thorough cleaning of the seed should be accomplished by winnowing, sifting, washing, &c. But the seeds of weeds are often sowed, after they have been separated from grain by winnowing. This will be the case when the chaff and rubbish at the tail of the heap of winnowed grain is thrown upon a dung hill, which is to be removed and applied to the soil, before the seeds contained therein have had opportunity to vegetate and get destroyed.

Weeding flax is considered in Europe, and by good husbandmen in this country, as necessary to secure a good crop. It should be carefully weeded when the plants are only three or four inches high; they are not then injured by the laborer going barefooted over them. It is not supposed to be injured by the clover and grass sown with it; on the contrary the Flemish farmers think them beneficial, by protecting the tender roots from drought, and keeping the weeds under.‡ Land, however, which has lately been cleared from its original growth of wood, or lately broken up from sward, will, generally, produce broad cast crops, which require no weeding.

Indian Corn.—"When the plants are three or four inches high, run a furrow with a one horse plough in the intervals between the rows as near as can conveniently be done without injuring the plants, making two furrows in each, turned from the rows, and then the weeds killed with the hand hoe, and a little fresh earth drawn about the plants." Such are the directions of Dr. Deane; but Judge Peters, of Pennsylvania, says, "Wherever *the harrow* has been fairly tried, its advantages over *the plough*, in corn crops, have been decisively shewn." Perhaps the question whether the plough or harrow is to be preferred, like many others in agriculture, admits of no definite answer, but depends on the nature of the soil. If that is hard, stony and uneven, the plough will loosen more mould, and destroy more weeds than the harrow; but if the field is level, mellow and dry, the harrow should, we think, be preferred, at least for the first time of hoeing. Judge Peters asserts that

"Transplanting from a seed bed, sown early, broad cast, in or convenient to your cornfield, or with supernumerary plants, from other hills, is far preferable to using seed corn for supplying defective hills cut off by the grub, or otherwise vacant. *Plants* even take and keep pace with those uninjured; but renewals with seed corn seldom arrive at maturity."

A writer in the American Farmer, vol. ii, p. 35, informs that he does not set or transplant his corn, as it never succeeded with him.

"Salt is used for destroying grubs, worms, &c. and has been successful in banishing or killing the corn-grub," as we learn by Judge Peters, but we are not told what quantity should be applied to the hill, nor the time of its application. We have been told by a practical farmer, that a small handful of salt, put into the hill at planting, preserved Indian corn from the wire worm and other insects. We should apprehend, however, that if salt is placed in contact with young plants it might injure or destroy them by its acrid qualities.

"A handful of ashes on each hill will nourish the plants and have a tendency to prevent their being annoyed by worms. Some lay it on just before the first or second hoeing. It will have a better effect in preventing worms, if laid on before the corn is up. But it is commonly designed to answer chiefly as a top dressing; and for this purpose it would answer better near the third hoeing; for then the plants want the greatest degree of nourishment, as they begin to grow very rapidly. Two dressings with ashes, to answer the two purposes, would not be amiss."* "This practice of dressing the hills does best when applied at the first hoeing, and repeated again at the third hoeing; the first brings forward the stalk, and the last the corn."† "It is essential to have this plant started well; because if it get stunted at the outset by cold rains, it seldom gets the better of this during its whole growth, particularly if the soil be not perfectly suitable to it. To prevent this, it is best to apply some stimulants to the plants at that time; and the best for that purpose are bog dirt, marle (dug out of bog-swamps,) ashes and gypsum. The latter ought, however, to be preferred on all soils to which it is suitable, because it is cheap and easily applied." Plaster, ashes, &c. are usually applied immediately after weeding, and left on the top of the ground. But it is recommended by a writer in the American Farmer, vol. i, p. 5, in case of dry weather to cover the plaster, "as long droughts and hot sun are injurious to its stimulating powers."

Pumpkins.—If you have any spare land of a suitable quality you may perhaps as well raise a crop of pumpkins. They will grow on any kind of soil which is proper for hoed crops, but the land cannot easily be made too rich for them. The Farmers' Assistant thinks they will grow better when planted by themselves, than when raised with Indian corn. Dr. Deane likewise expresses the same opinion. It is directed that hills for pumpkins be placed about seven feet apart, and only one plant should finally be suffered to stand in a hill. The crop is much less expensive to raise than Indian corn, and we are told that an acre properly cultivated will produce as much as ten tons, worth at least 16 cents a hundred for feeding and fatting cattle. Instead of a summer fallowing for wheat, a farmer might derive a handsome profit by

* See Deane's N. E. Farmer.

† See communication of O. Fiske, Esq. in our paper, No. 28, page 222.

‡ See Mr. Pomeroy's Essay on Flax Husbandry.

* Deane's N. E. Farmer. † Farmers' Manual.

planting this vegetable. "The pumpkin crop would require two ploughings and two hoeings while growing, and another good ploughing would then be requisite to fit the ground for the reception of the wheat. The intervention, therefore, of the crop of pumpkins would require the two ploughings, which are requisite for it while growing, more than is commonly given to land when summer fallowed in the usual way. Whether the crop could be ripened and the ground cleared in season in autumn for sowing winter wheat, we cannot say, but believe it generally might. Give the hills plenty of seed to guard against accidents, insects, &c. and pull up the supernumerary plants in due season."

INDIAN CORN FOR FODDER.—"The husbandmen of America would do well to try the method of cultivating Indian corn, as practised in Italy, France and Spain, where it is sown very *thick* in broad cast, for producing fodder, and for *stall feeding* or *soiling*."* "Every farmer knows how eagerly cattle devour the entire plant of Indian corn, in its green state; and land in good condition will produce good crops of it. Some years ago, just when the ears were in the milk, I cut close to the ground the plants growing on a measured space, equal, as I judged, to the average product of the whole piece, and found that at the same rate, an acre would yield twelve tons of green fodder; probably a richer and more nourishing food than any other known to the husbandman. And this quantity was the growth of less than four months." "It has appeared to me that the sort called *sweet corn*, (having a white shrivelled grain when ripe) yields stalks of richer juice than the common yellow corn. It is also more disposed to multiply suckers—an additional recommendation of it, when planted to be eaten in a green state, for horses and cattle, and especially for milch cows; and its time for planting may be so regulated as to furnish a supply of food just when the common pastures usually fail. I am inclined to doubt whether any other green food will afford butter of equal excellence."† The Hon. Josiah Quincy has likewise soiled cattle from Indian corn, sown broad cast, with great success, obtaining, if we recollect rightly, two crops in a season. We cannot say how much seed should be sowed broad cast to an acre. Perhaps between two and three bushels would be sufficient. The author of a "Treatise on Agriculture," published in the Albany Argus, says, that "corn is sometimes cultivated for fodder only, in which case it is generally sown, broad cast, at the rate of *ten bushels* to the acre, and *cut green*. In the volcanic soils of Italy, it sometimes produces four green crops in a year." The Massachusetts Agricultural Repository, vol. vi, p. 380, says, "We think the writer must have been mistaken in the quantity of corn sowed broad cast on an acre. We are persuaded that two or three bushels would be ample; better than a larger quantity." When great authorities differ on agricultural points, experiments must decide. We are inclined to the opinion of the author of the Treatise. If fodder alone is the object in sowing Indian corn, we should suppose that it can hardly be sown too thick. The stalks will be smaller, but there will be more of them, and they will be finer and more easily cured or made into a sort of hay, and we believe would furnish more food for cattle when cut and given green. But this is merely conjecture, as we have never known experiments relating to the subject, though we wish they might be instituted. We have learned, however, from inquiry, that some farmers have been in the habit of sowing Indian corn broad cast, mixed with *cabbage seeds* and oats; and making use of them altogether for soiling, or giving them green to cattle. It will be proper if any of these seeds, or millet, or any of the grasses are sown for the purpose of cutting them green, to harrow and *roll* the ground perfectly smooth for mowing, as directed in Col. Pickering's remarks on the premiums offered by the Essex Agricultural Society.*

* Bordley's Husbandry.

† Hon. T. Pickering's Address to the Essex Agricultural Society.

* See N. E. Farmer, page 239.

RECRUITING WORN OUT LANDS.

In this day's paper, page 364, will be seen a detail of an important experiment by a Mr. Lawton, for recruiting a field which had become barren by neglect, or improper management. This experiment seems to have been conducted in a mode analogous to, but in some respects different from what is called *turning in green crops for manure*. The first and second crops of clover, including two years of the experiment, were *not ploughed in*, but left to *rot on the ground*. The third year produced a crop which was worth ploughing in. The two first crops were, properly speaking, *smothering crops*. We believe that almost any soil may be made productive by being protected from the rays of the sun, and at the same time exposed to the action of the atmosphere. Every farmer knows that the earth under a wood shed, a dwelling house, or any other building, if the air has free access to it, soon becomes fertile without manure, and even salt petre may be made of it, from nitrous particles, which it must have imbibed exclusively from the atmosphere. It is well worth consideration whether clover, peas, millet, buck wheat, white lupin, or any other crop intended to recruit an exhausted soil, may not as well or better, in many instances, be suffered to *rot on the ground*, as be *turned in*. At least it cannot be doubted but more benefit would be derived to a sandy soil from the *shade* afforded by a *small crop*, than from the *manure* such crop might afford by *ploughing it in*. But if the object of the farmer in sowing his land is either to shade it, manure it, or to cut the crop for soiling, or giving green to cattle, he can hardly be too liberal of the seed applied.

DAVIS' PLOUGH.

An experiment was made on Saturday last, in the presence of many citizens, on one of the vacant squares of this city, to test the value of the *Substratum Plough*, of which Gideon Davis is the Inventor and Proprietor. From so limited an experiment, a conclusive opinion could not be formed; but the impressions of those who understand the subject appeared to be decidedly favorable to the plough as an important implement for pulverizing the earth far beyond the ordinary depth of the plough, and as particularly adapted to put ground in the best condition for Indian corn and all root crops. This plough stirs the ground to the depth of from ten to eighteen inches—the average depth of its running being probably over twelve inches. Some idea of the value of the Invention may be gathered from this fact.—*Nat. Intelligencer.*

HEAD ACHES AND APOPLEXY.

From a Medical work entitled 'Farmer on Head Aches.'

The alarming increase of apoplectic fits for several years past, has naturally given rise to the question, What do they proceed from?—Various opinions have been given by writers on the subject, but none appear to be satisfactory.

Now, from all the consideration I have given to the subject, and coupling it with many corroborative circumstances, I find no hesitation in coming to the conclusion, that the prevalency of apoplexy is owing, in a great measure, to the introduction of the custom of wearing cravats. This observation will appear less extraordinary, when we call to mind the fact that this addition to our dress was not adopted until the 16th century, previous to which period the disorder in question was met with but as one to three compared to the present. In that day the neck was divested of every kind of covering, except a slight frill which contained no warmth, and instead of detracting from dignity, it added much to the majesty of the countenance. A mere shirt collar was worn on the neck by some people, but it did not operate in augmenting vascular action there.

But I find another proof of the feasibility of my remarks, by the circumstance of females being less liable to apoplexy than the opposite sex, although the nature of their economy might be supposed to lead much oftener to the complaint. Now we find that their necks are not enveloped in padded ligatures, and consequently the proportion of sudden deaths amongst them is much less than in men.

FOREIGN.

FROM FRANCE AND SPAIN.

Bordeaux and Cadiz papers to the 25th of April, have been received in New York and this city. By these we learn that the royalist Gen. Morales had been taken in an action at Carneja. The government of Spain had officially declared war against France, and had ordered out many public and private vessels against the commerce of the invading country. Tranquillity prevailed at Madrid, but the spirit and enthusiasm of the Spanish people had not abated. The French army was making a slow and cautious progress towards Madrid, and according to their own accounts preserve excellent discipline, but the Spanish say that they commit great excesses. The national troops have fought bravely in the Province of Bilboa, but retreated before the superior numbers of their opponents. The French have levied, according to their own statements, a contribution of 400 suits of clothes on Bilboa. The Spaniards say that the contribution was 8000 dollars. At Madrid preparations were making for giving the French such a reception as may make them repent of their temerity in undertaking to dragoon their neighbors into despotism. The guerille or partizan bands of Spaniards have begun their operations with much vigor. The militia of Saragossa have volunteered their services during the war, and a band of Royalist troops, consisting of 2000, have been completely beaten at Santiague.

Logrono.—The capture of this city is announced in an official despatch from the French General, in which

he says, "the enemy made an orderly retreat for nearly a league, defending every position, but were at last broken by the intrepidity of Col. Muller, who threw himself with his hussars into the midst of them, shouting 'long live the king,' &c. The result of this brilliant affair is the capture of Gen. Don Julian Sanchez, 64 officers and soldiers, one standard, several lances, 200 or 300 muskets, &c. and about 30 killed. In short, the Spaniards appear to be pursuing the policy by which Bonaparte was beaten, and which, if persevered in, cannot fail to prove fatal to their assailants in this instance.

LATER STILL.—An arrival at N. York has brought London papers to the 28th of April. An official bulletin from the army of the Eastern Pyrennees, dated 18th April, announces that the 5th division of the fourth corps had advanced to Janquera without meeting the enemy. A French paper estimates the whole force invading Spain at 81,000;—60,000 on the side of Bayonne, and 21,000 under Moncey, at Perpignan. Of the former, more than 30,000 will be necessary for the investment of St. Sebastian and Pampeluna. Sir Robert Wilson, accompanied by a son of Lord Erskine, has left London for Falmouth, to embark for Vigo and join the Spanish army. Some of the French papers state that the Duke d'Angouleme offered the Governor of San Sebastian a bribe of 100,000 franks to surrender the fortress, which he accepted, and having obtained the cash, when the French troops advanced, fired upon them, and killed about 860. The money received was immediately sent to the Cortes. The prisoners taken at Logrono were about 150. Accounts from Portugal state that the insurgents are giving way on every side, and the constitutional forces would soon extirpate the rebellion. The French government is said to have taken great offence at the proceedings in the British Parliament and the neutral course of England. Every thing on the part of the Spaniards indicates determined but wary opposition; and clouds and thick darkness are already resting on the prospects of the invaders.

Two regiments of *women* (says a Perpignan paper,) have been organized at Barcelona, for the service of the place, in case of siege. We hold in our hands an engraving of these soldiers—they are in a becoming dress, and armed with a lance. It may be recollected that in the former war a similar battalion was formed at Gironne, whose courage is much spoken of by Marshall St. Cyr, in his work on Catalonia.

Spanish Main.—The Columbian forces under Montilla have captured the fortress of San Carlos and city of Maracaibo. A division of Morales' army, 6000 strong, under Col. Gomez, had been defeated by the Colombian troops, under Gen. Gonsalvez, and the Spanish Governor of Coro and many others killed. Bolivar was at Guayquil in March, and had withdrawn the succors furnished by Colombia for Peru, not being wanted, and had changed the destination of the force, 8,000 men, for Santa Martha, and if necessary for Maracaibo.

The last accounts from La Vera Cruz state that the Ex-Emperor Iturbide, with his family, was about embarking for Leghorn, in a British vessel, and that the Mexican Government had agreed to allow him 25,000 dollars per annum, during life.

The New (London) Monthly Magazine for April, says, "We have long and anxiously looked towards the press of America for a sound and sincere history of man in his savage state. Europe in fact has a right to look to America for such a history."

DOMESTIC.

Flood of the Mississippi.—Much damage has been done, and much more is apprehended, from the extraordinary height of water in the Mississippi and its tributary streams. The Louisiana Gazette of the 13th ult. speaks of a freshet in the river Pascagoula, and the streams entering therein, which carried away all the mills in that part of the country, besides doing other damage. An article dated Baton Rouge, May 10th, declares that "the state of the Mississippi at this time becomes really alarming; it rises from an inch to an inch and an half every twenty-four hours, and by the latest accounts, which are far from being satisfactory, we are informed that the Missouri freshet is daily expected. This is an uncommonly distressing season in every point of view—mercantile business is at a stand—the price of cotton low, and without demand—cash scarcer than ever before known in this part of the world—incessant rains for a certain length of time latterly, have nearly destroyed the new planted crops, and the unusual swelling of the river threatens to blast all hopes which might have been entertained of remedying the evil." At New Orleans, likewise, great apprehensions were entertained for the safety of the embankments. On the 11th ult. the river ran over into Levee street, and it was feared that a general inundation would soon take place.

The Secretary of the Commissioners under the Florida treaty, has given notice that he will answer the inquiries of any claimant with regard to his individual claim, whenever addressed by letter.

The New York American states, as a report, that Return J. Meigs has been removed from the situation of Postmaster General, and Mr. M'Leod, of Ohio, formerly in Congress, appointed in his stead. The editors say they have reason to think the report well founded; but the National Intelligencer is silent on the subject.

A hail storm was experienced at Lynn and Saugus on Thursday afternoon of last week, and several panes of glass were broken. At Lynnfield, several barns were blown down, fences destroyed, and trees torn up by the roots.

A writer in the Richmond Compiler offers an extract from the European Magazine of 1811, giving a statement of the number of men employed by Napoleon to subjugate Spain. The grand total was five hundred and fourteen thousand, seven hundred and ninety-six. These men were hearty in the cause, and were commanded by able generals. They fought for four years, and were finally unsuccessful. What can *now* be expected from 100,000 men, going reluctantly to battle, and led on by incompetent officers?

An Albany paper of June 4, says—Notwithstanding the large quantity of flour which is daily brought to this market, the price of wheat has been looking up for some time past, and is now from 11s. to 11s. and 3d. per bushel, and we should not be surprised to see the first quality bringing 11s. 6d. or 12s. Winter grain, we are told, in general, looks well, and promises an abundant harvest.

Oranges have been introduced into the Penitentiary, Millbank, (Eng.) as a substitute in the regimen of the prisoners, and the most salutary effects have been experienced from their use. The prisoners are allowed daily, a quarter of a pound of meat and three oranges in addition to the former allowance of soup.

MASSACHUSETTS LEGISLATURE.

But little business of great general interest has been completed in either House, except what related to the usual routine of organizing the government, the details of which we have already published. The following is a list of the bills which have passed their final stages, so far as they have yet fallen within our notice.

To incorporate the Canal Manufacturing Co.—additional, for incorporating the Charlestown Bleachery—to authorize the Trustees of the Baptist Education Fund to divide the same—to incorporate the Trustees of the Ministerial Fund of the Baptist Society in Haverhill—the Leicester Manufacturing Co.—the Trustees of the Ministerial Fund of the first Congregational Society in Wendell—in addition to an act entitled an act to incorporate the Proprietors of the Museum Hall in the town of Boston—in addition to an act entitled an act to incorporate the Union Marine Insurance Co. and the several acts in addition thereto—to incorporate the Elliot Manufacturing Co.—in addition to an act entitled an act to incorporate the Linen and Duck Manufacturing Co.—to cede to the United States the jurisdiction of a site for a Light House on Monamoy Point—in addition to an act entitled an act to incorporate the President, Directors & Co. of the Exchange Bank—in addition to an act entitled an act to provide for the discharge of Officers in the Militia.

A resolve passed authorising the Treasurer to borrow $50,000.

AGRICULTURAL ESTABLISHMENT,

NO. 20, MERCHANTS' ROW,

At the East End of the Old Market.

FOR sale as above, a variety of the most approved single and double mould board Ploughs,
C. Howard's improved cast iron mould board, with wrought Shear and Coulter,
Cast iron do. do. do.
J. Seaver & Co's. do. do.
Bigelow's wrought do. do.
Warren's much approved common Ploughs,
Sinclair's side hill do. do. do.
Howard's much improved Cultivator, an implement highly esteemed for its utility in drill cultivation,
Bennet's Broad Cast,
Seed Sowing Machines, for large and small seeds,
Eastman's improved Straw Cutter,
Safford's new invented Straw Cutter, much improved,
Common hand Straw Cutters,
An English Vegetable Cutter,
Stevens' patent steel spring Hay and Manure Forks,
Steel spring Potatoe Hoes,
English cast steel broad Hoes,
Common and steel do. do.
A great variety of Garden and other Agricultural Implements. June 7.

PRICES OF COUNTRY PRODUCE, &c.

[Revised and corrected every Friday.]

		FROM D. C.	TO D. C.
ASHES, pot, 1st qual.	ton.	145 00	150 00
pearl do.		155 00	157 00
BEANS, white,	bush	1 00	1 08
BEEF, mess, 200 cwt.	bbl.	9 50	9 75
cargo, No 1,		8 50	8 75
" No 2,		7 00	7 25
BUTTER, inspect. 1st qual.	lb.	12	13
" 2d qual.		10	11
small kegs, family,		14	15
CHEESE, new milk		7	8
FLAX		8	9
FLAX SEED	bush	85	90
FLOUR, Baltimore, superfine,	bbl.	7 75	7 87
Genessee		7 62	7 87
Rye, best		4 75	5 00
GRAIN, Rye	bush	72	75
Corn		63	65
Barley		68	70
Oats		40	42
HOGS' LARD, 1st sort	lb.	10	
HOPS, No 1,		10	12
LIME,	cask	1 25	1 50
OIL, Linseed, American	gal.	65	00
PLAISTER PARIS	ton.	3 00	3 25
PORK, Navy Mess	bbl.	12 00	12 50
Bone Middlings		14 00	14 50
Cargo, No 1,		12 00	12 50
Cargo, No 2,		11 00	11 50
SEEDS, Herd's Grass	bush	2 00	2 25
Clover	lb.	8	9
WOOL, Merino, full blood, washed		55	65
do do unwashed		48	50
do 3-4 washed		50	55
do 1-2 do		40	45
Native do		38	40
Pulled, Lamb's, 1st sort		55	60
do Spinning, 1st sort		50	55
PROVISION MARKET.			
BEEF, best pieces	lb.	8	9
PORK, fresh		7	8
VEAL,		6	8
LAMB, per quarter		37	50
POULTRY,		10	12
BUTTER, keg & tub		13	14
lump, best		16	18
EGGS,	doz.	12	13
MEAL, Rye,	bush	75	80
Indian,		75	
POTATOES,		40	45
CIDER, liquor,	bbl.	1 50	2 25
HAY, best,	ton.	20 00	22 00

AN ODE,

Written for the Celebration of the Second Centennial Anniversary of the Settlement of N. H.

Two Hundred Years are number'd now,
Since with the op'ning year
The white man breath'd his ardent vow,
And rais'd his altar here;
From Albion's haughty sea-girt land,
"Laconia's" Ancients come,
A patient, firm, and dauntless band,
To seek a peaceful home.

And why should thus our Fathers spurn
Their native earth and sky?
With visions bold their fancies burn;
Their hopes and hearts beat high;
For mid these northern wilds they see
Perrennial nature bloom,
And rivers roll in majesty,
To fertilize their home:

And mighty lakes are spreading there,
Where Eden islands show,
And "chrystal hills" are swelling fair,
Where mines of treasure glow;
Oh, at those visions never smile,—
They gilded well the gloom;
They soften'd oft the rugged toil
That rais'd our happy home.

Nor think such dreams were fables vain,
The *moral* we may find;
Though winter here in rigor reign,
No frost can blight the *Mind*.
It glows as pure, it soars as light
As ocean's wintry foam;
It is the *Freeman's* Chrystal bright—
The Gem that gilds his home.

Then polish high the living *Mind!*
'Twas Athens' noblest praise—
Be Learning here with Labor join'd,
Our laurels with our lays;
And GOD, who saw with tender care
Our Pilgrim Fathers roam,
Will bless those sons and daughters fair,
That grace and guard their home.

HAIL THE DAY.

TUNE—*Scots wha hae.*

[Sung after dinner at the Centennial Celebration.]

Hail the day our gallant sires,
On these rocks first lit their fires,
Where now stand our fanes and spires,
On this jubilee—
Sires, who from old England bore
Freedom's standard to our shore,
May your deeds for ever more
Live in memory.

While New Hampshire's healthful gales,
Ocean whiten'd with her sails,
While our verdant hills and vales
Cheer us gratefully;
We'll revere the patriot band,
Men, who on this desert strand,
Wav'd their banner o'er our land—
Flag of liberty.

On the spot where pilgrims fled,
Where by savage foes they bled,
To the spirits of the dead,
This our oath shall be;
By the mounds their ashes made,
By the altars where they pray'd,
By our own right arm and blade,
Still we will be free.

From a Fayetteville (N. C.) paper of May 26.

HYSON TEA.

The fact has been demonstrated, that the genuine Hyson Tea may be successfully cultivated in this State. The experiment has been tried, and the result has been the most satisfactory. A lady, the wife of Mr. J. Newland, of Chatham County, found a seed much resembling that of buckwheat, in the bottom of a box of tea, which her husband had purchased in this town. She planted the seed in her garden, and the produce was a plentiful crop. She gave some of the seed to Mrs. Farrington, the lady of Mr. John Farrington, of Chatham county, who also planted the seed; and the writer of this article obtained his information from Mrs. Farrington, and also obtained from her some of the tea and seed. He planted the seed in his garden in this town, where it can be seen by those who are curious to witness the products of the East Indies transferred to this western hemisphere. The writer of this article has distributed, of the small portion of the seed obtained by him, to many of his friends in this town and its vicinity. A treatise on the mode of curing this valuable plant is quite desirable.

From Silliman's Journal.

SALEM MANUFACTURE OF ALUM.

We contemplate with particular satisfaction every advance made in our domestic arts and manufactures, and regard every new step of this kind as an addition to our national resources.

Excepting the natural alum of the caverns in Tennessee, and of some other regions of the West and South, and that occasionally found in our schistose rocks, and used in these cases more or less for domestic dyeing, and other purposes, we were not aware that the United States possessed any resource for this article independent of the foreign markets.

Some time since we were informed that a manufactory was established at Salem in Massachusetts, and the proprietors have recently put us in possession of specimens, which prove that the effort has been completely successful.

Among the crystals of alum, are some of great size, and exquisite beauty and transparency, exhibiting to the naked eye, in a very striking manner, the successive layers of superposition, and the progressive increments and decrements. A part of an octaedron lies before us, complete, except on the side which adhered to the mass. It measures five inches by four, and has the most perfect finish on its faces and solid edges and angles, which are in every part replaced by truncations.—Some crystals of rather smaller size are quite or nearly perfect. We are aware that fine crystals are not rare in manufactories, but we have not seen these equalled even by the similar productions of the celebrated establishment near Glasgow. There can be no question from the appearance of these crystals, as well as from that of the amorphous masses, of the extreme purity of these materials. Perhaps they are even purer for this reason, that the alum is not manufactured (as we understand) from the usual source, namely, the decomposed alum slates, but from the direct synthetical union of sulphuric acid with the argillaceous earth.

The sulphate of copper (blue vitriol) made at this establishment, is equally perfect in its kind, presenting crystals of extreme finish and beauty.

From the American Farmer.

CURE FOR THE GRAVEL.

MR. SKINNER—When we take a daily paper in hand, it is generally for the purpose of discussing the politics of the day, or noting the price of stocks; both pass away as the Ephemera. But when in company with the *American Farmer*, "we read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest" its valuable communications. I often copy receipts from it, and am inclined to measure "other people's *corn* by my own bushel," and think the following receipt may be of as much service to suffering humanity, as one for making the Hamburgh pickle. Should you be of the same way of thinking, it will find a place in your valuable paper.

Having been much troubled with the gravel, I was advised by a Mr. Zane, of this city, to try a decoction of wild carrot, Daucus Carota. I made a tea from the stalks and seed, with a few water melon seed, and drank about a quart a day; it is as palatable as China tea, when sweetened with honey or sugar. In less than a month from my first using it, I passed a stone 2-8ths of an inch long and 3-8ths circumference, of an egg-like form. I have ever since, when troubled with any pain in the region of the kidneys, taken a strong tea of it for my common drink, through the day, and always found relief. I take it with my children for breakfast, once a week--they make no objection to the taste.

This is a remedy that is to be found by every farmer on his own lands; and cannot well be mistaken, from its great resemblance to the culinary carrot seed and flower. Mr. Casey, Seedsman, called to my recollection, a medicine used by my father, composed of beards of leeks, birch twigs, pennyroyal and wild carrot—ad libitum—but a compound is not so easily procured as a simple, which alone, often causes the receipt to be passed over.

Yours respectfully,
WASHINGTON SPENCER.

May 18th, 1823.

Lord North.—While this gentleman was engaged in discussing one of the most serious points of a question under examination, a dog which had concealed himself under the table of the House of Commons, made his escape, and ran directly across the floor, setting up at the same time a violent howl. It occasioned a burst of laughter, and might have disconcerted an ordinary man. But he who knew how to convert the most awkward occurrences to purposes of advantage, having waited till the roar had subsided, and preserving all his gravity, said to the speaker, "Sir, I have been interrupted by a new member, not acquainted with the forms of the house. I therefore yielded to him; but as he has concluded his argument I shall resume mine."

A dandy, remarking one summer day, that the weather was so excessively hot, that when he put his head into a basin of water, it fairly boiled, received for reply, "Then, sir, you had *calf heads' soup* at very little expense."

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